

Message Text

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71

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

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FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1759

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

USMISSION GENEVA

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VIENNA FOR MBFR DEL

GENEVA FOR CSCE DEL

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, EEC, GW, FR, UK

SUBJECT: EUROPEAN NOTES

REF: BONN 5634 - NOTAL

BEGIN SUMMARY: DURING LAST FEW DAYS, GERMAN PRESS HAS
CARRIED SEVERAL INTERESTING ITEMS BEARING ON EUROPEAN
POLITICAL MATTERS, AS DESCRIBED BELOW. END SUMMARY

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1. DIE WELT CARRIED PARIS DATED LINED STORY BY COUNT

KAGENECK, CITING AMERICAN SOURCES AS SAYING PRESIDENT AGREED WITH BRANDT AND OTHER EUROPEAN GOVERNMENT CHIEFS DURING PARIS TALKS THAT "THERE SHOULD BE AN ATLANTIC SUMMIT BEFORE NIXON'S PLANNED VISIT TO MOSCOW IN JUNE BUT AFTER THE ELECTION OF A NEW FRENCH PRESIDENT." BRANDT WAS SAID TO HAVE PLEADED STRONGLY FOR PARIS AS THE SITE OF SUCH A SUMMIT MEETING. DIE WELT SAYS: "BRANDT BELIEVES THE ATLANTIC COMMUNITY MUST COMPRISE FRANCE. AS THE FRENCH PRESIDENT HOLDS THE STRONGEST POLITICAL POSITION IN EUROPE, HE CANNOT BE LEFT OUT IN REDEFINING ATLANTIC RELATIONS. REGARDLESS OF WHO IS ELECTED AS NEW FRENCH PRESIDENT, HE WILL NOT BE IN A POSITION TO CONTINUE POMPIDOU'S POLICY. RATHER, HE WILL HAVE TO PLACE ATLANTIC AND EUROPEAN RELATIONS INTO THE FOREGROUND. THAT IS WHY ALSO THE AMERICAN SIDE WOULD PREFER PARIS AS THE SITE OF AN ATLANTIC SUMMIT."

2. WELT AM SONNTAG CARRIED INTERVIEW WITH FOREIGN MINISTER SCHEEL, WHO STRESSED THAT FRANCO-GERMAN FRIENDSHIP WOULD CONTINUE. TURNING TOWARD ENGLISH CHANNEL, SCHEEL ADDED: "NOTHING AND NO ONE CAN MAKE US ABANDON OUR POLITICAL GOAL OF EUROPEAN UNION."

3. THE FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE REPORTS COMMENT BY OUT-SPOKEN SPD BUNDESTAG DEPUTY AND FONOFF STATE SECRETARY HANS APEL ON POLITICAL SITUATION IN POST-POMPIDOU FRANCE. FAZ QUOTES APEL AS TERMING MITTERAND "A GOOD MAN WHO KNOWS WHAT CAN AND CANNOT BE DONE" AND THAT MITTERAND'S ELECTION "WOULD MAKE MANY THINGS EASIER." APEL REPORTEDLY ADDED: "WE HAVE ALREADY HAD SUFFICIENT DIFFICULTIES WITH FRANCE. IT CAN HARDLY GET WORSE."

4. FONOFF SPOKESMAN SULIMA TOLD APRIL 10 PRESS CONFERENCE THAT SCHEEL AND JOBERT WOULD MEET AT SCHLOSS GYMNIICH (NEAR BONN), WITH ONLY A FEW ADVISORS, FOR DISCUSSION OF OUTSTANDING EUROPEAN ISSUES. SULIMA SAID MEETING PROBABLY WOULD TAKE PLACE APRIL 20-21, UNCLASSIFIED

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ALTHOUGH THE DATES ARE NOT YET CERTAIN.
HILLENBRAND

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